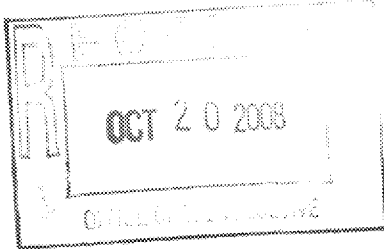


YAKIMA HERALD REPUBLIC

A daily part of your life

yakimaherald.com



October 15, 2008

Elin D. Miller
Regional Administrator
EPA Region X
1200 6th Avenue Suite 900
Seattle, Wash. 98101

Dear Ms. Miller,

I wanted to give you an opportunity to read our recent series, "Hidden wells, dirty water," about contaminated wells in the Lower Yakima Valley.

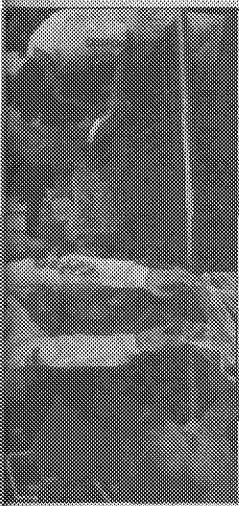
The stories expose serious and longstanding problems with the regulatory framework that is supposed to be protecting poor, rural residents who rely on groundwater for drinking water.

Would EPA consider invoking emergency authority under Section 1431 of the Safe Drinking Water Act to address this problem?

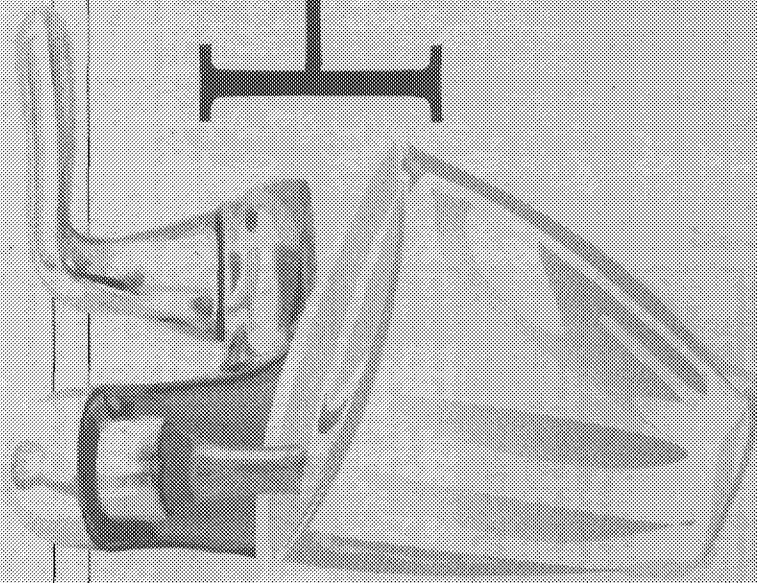
Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

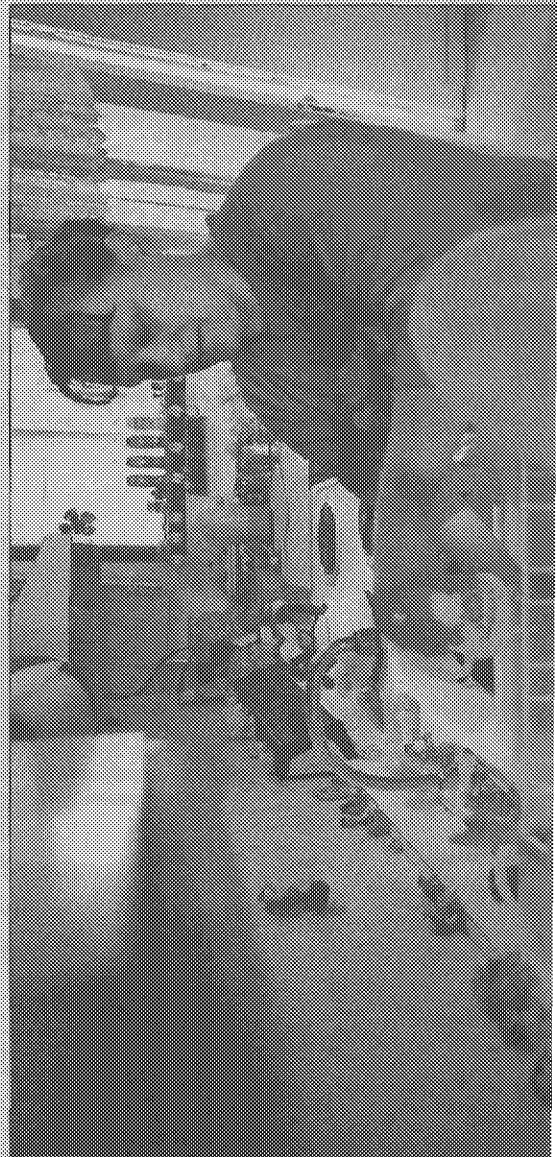
Leah Beth Ward



Annual drive brings in
tons of food items, cash
for area food banks /10



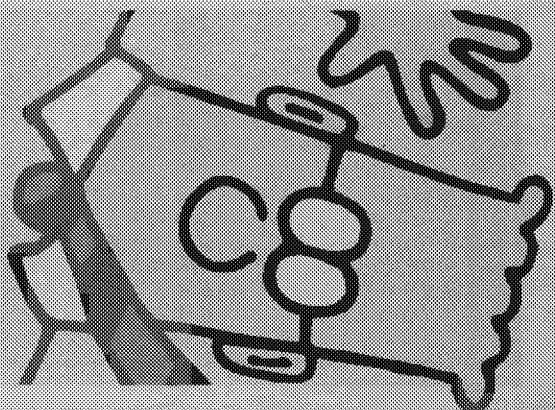
Hidden wells, dirty water



Evidence of groundwater contamination in the Lower Valley has been ignored for years, leaving poor rural residents exposed to health risks and nowhere to turn

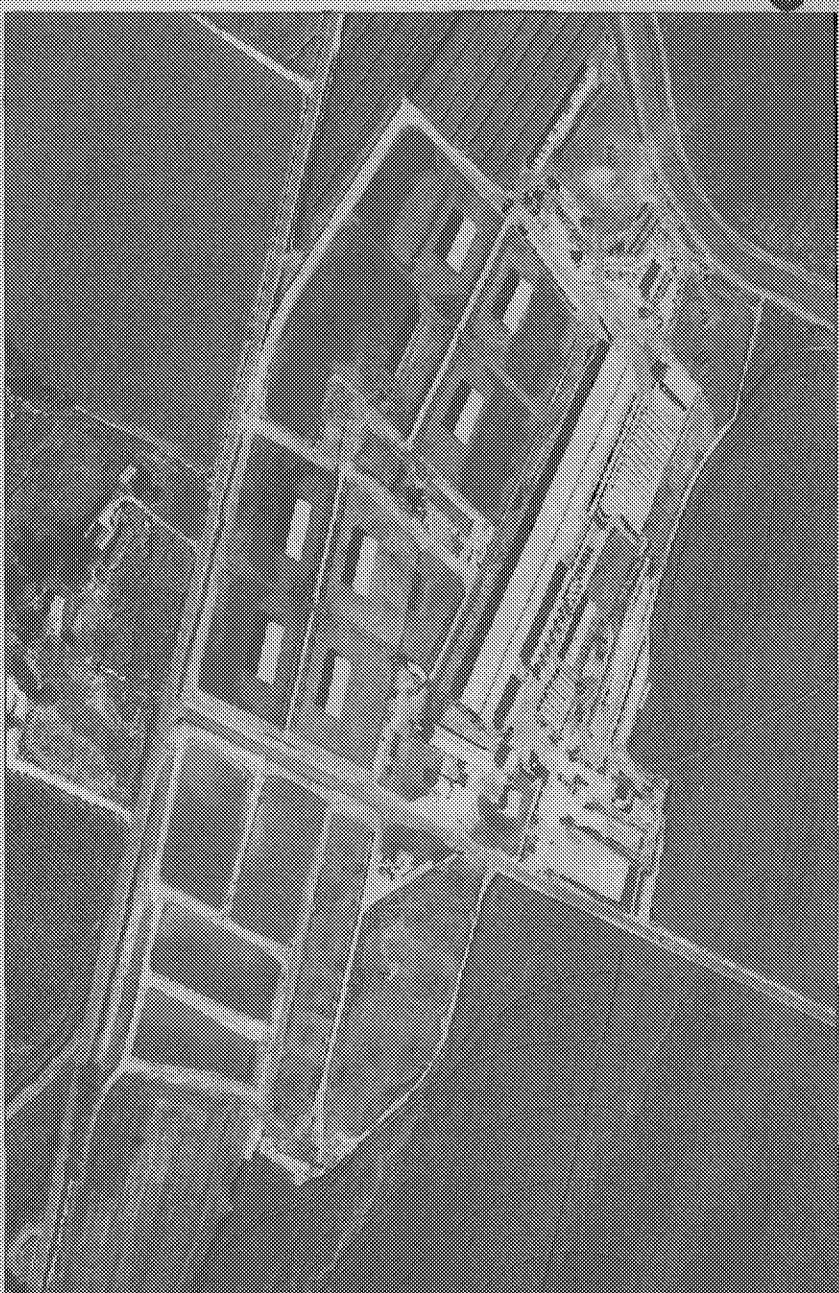
By LEAH BETH WARD
YAKIMA HERALD-REPUBLIC

UTLOOK — Like many rural Lower Yakima Valley



Pop culture and the workplace

Many Americans are disenchanted with their jobs, and Dwight Schrute bobbieheads and stuffed Dogberts can make it all more palatable.
PAGE 6C



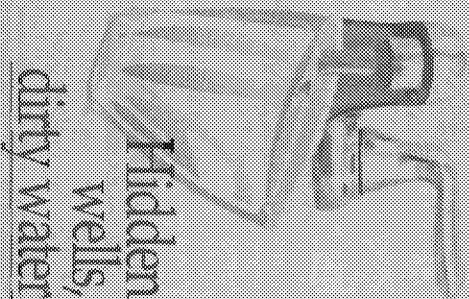
NBC HOLDINGS/HERALD NEWS SERVICE

Dairies, like this one on Dekker Road in Outlook, store manure in lagoons. The manure then is sprayed as slurry on crops to feed cows.

Where's the

accountability?

SECOND IN A
THREE-DAY SERIES



Hidden wells,
dirty water

TODAY

■ One woman's frustrating efforts to find the source of her well contamination.

ON THE WEB

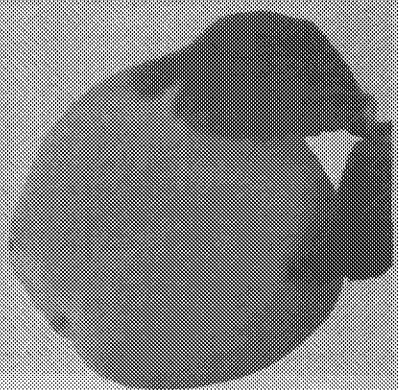
■ **Sunday's stories:** Despite evidence of well contamination, efforts to assess the problem have been repeatedly thwarted. Also, a Q&A on nitrates.

■ Want to know if a contaminated well has been detected near you? Use our interactive map at www.yakimaherald.com/dirtywater.

■ Listen and watch a video of Outlook resident Norma Solano describe her concerns about well water. At www.yakimaherald.com/dirtywater.

COMING
TUESDAY





100 million boxes forecast

The estimated output of this year's apple crop keeps rising. Officials now forecast 101.6 million boxes from Washington state, including more than 62 million from the Yakima Valley. **Page 3C**



It's a horse of a different color

Tucker was bred to be a race horse. But the 12-year-old Thoroughbred's national championship came in eventing, an equestrian

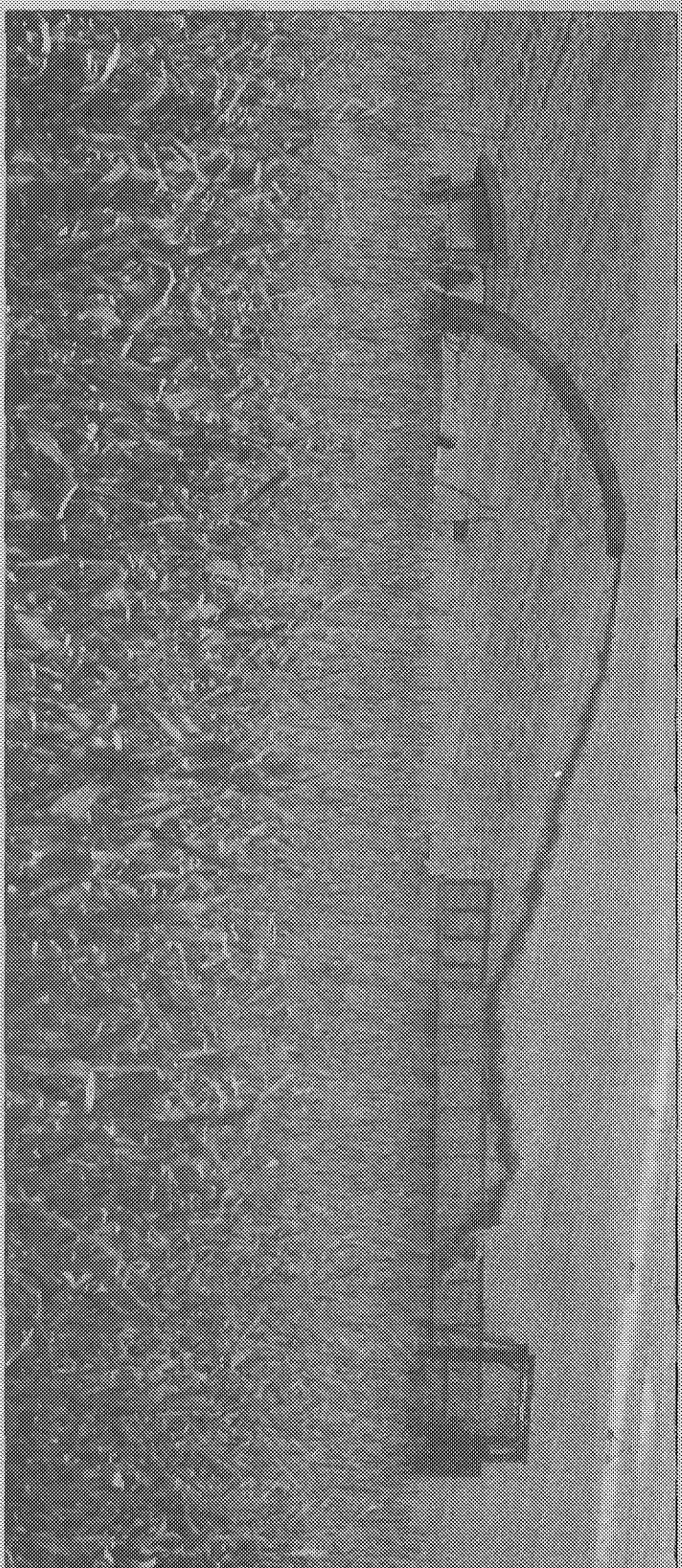
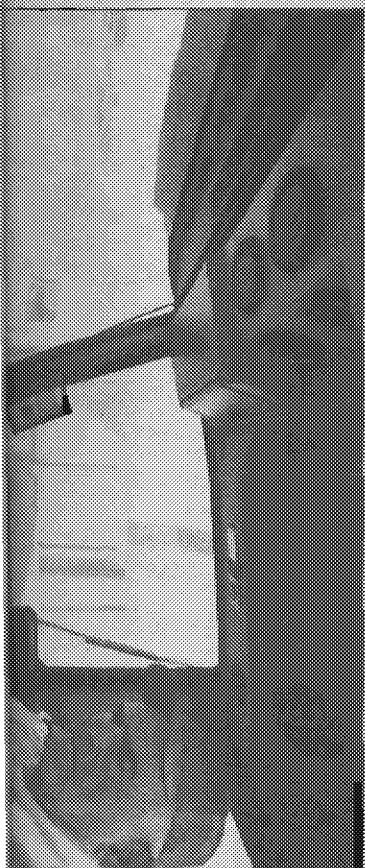


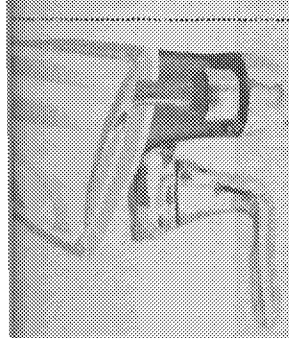
Photo by KRIS HOLLAND/Yakima Herald-Republic

Working together

A rare cooperative effort resulted in a Groundwater Management Area for Grant, Adams, Franklin and



THIRD IN A
THREE-DAY SERIES





Leah Beth Ward
Reporter

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